industry respectively. According to the scheme evolved by IDBI the financial institutions will initially focus on financing film production activity of corporate entities. While there is no upper limit for sanction, the minimum quantum of assistance would normally be not less than Rs. 20 million. The quantum of assistance would not exceed 50% of the budget, the debt-equity ratio would not exceed 1:1 and the promoter's contribution has to be at least 30 per cent of the estimated budget. Part of the equity contribution, not exceeding 20 per cent of the estimated budget can be raised in the form of advances from distributors against sale of territories music/video rights etc. The period of repayment of loan would not exceed two years and loans would be sanctioned against various forms of securities specified in the scheme.

Under the RBI scheme, Banks may provide finance to film producers (corporate as well as non-corporate entities) with good track record in the relevant field. Banks may also provide finance to these entities for production of films in participation with National Film Development Corporation Limited. Banks can finance up to 50 per cent of the project cost on merits. Producers are required to bring in at least 35 to 40 per cent of the budget of the film. Banks may provide finance to such projects where the total cost of production of a film does not exceed Rs. 10 crores.

The period of loan under this scheme may be fixed based on the financing bank's assessment of cash generation of the project. While these are the broad guidelines, the banks are free to advance loans based on their own experience and other relevant information keeping in view the spirit of the guidelines.

Approval of the Central Board of Film Certification has to be obtained before public exhibition of a film.

Women holding post of Judges

2959. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of women holding the post of Judges is quite dismal; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to give full representation of women in higher judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The number of sitting women Judges in the

Supreme Court of India and the High Courts, as on 14.08.2001, was 1 and 19 respectively.

Government have addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them, *inter-alia,* to locate suitable women candidates from the Bar for appointment as High Court Judges.

Collapse of civil and criminal Justice System

2960. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a total collapse in civil and criminal justice system and the conviction rate is hardly 7 per cent whereas 93 per cent of those charged with various crimes go scot-free;

(b) whether Government have studied and analysed the reasons for collapse in justice which encouraged crime becoming a low risk job;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure speedy conviction of criminals and justice to aggrieved parties;

(d) whether any comprehensive judicial reforms are under consideration; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

As per information made available by the National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, the average conviction rate of crimes under the Indian Penal Code from the year 1995 to 1999 has been 39.02%.

(b) The reasons for poor conviction rate, *inter alia,* can be attributed to the nature of the procedural laws, practices and procedures followed by criminal courts and the inadequacies of the investigating and prosecuting agencies.

(c) to (e) Various steps have been taken by the Government for the speedy disposal of both civil and criminal cases. These include amendment of the Civil Procedure Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, increase in the number of posts of Judges/Judicial Officers, establishment of Special Courts/ tribunals, computerisation of courts and adoption of alternative modes of dispute